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448 Hillcrest Avenue  
Apartment #2 - Rear  
Morrisville, Pennsylvania 19067

Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20055



To Whom It May Concern:

In view of Philadelphia Electric Company's recent application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for an operating permit for the Limerick Nuclear Reactor, I wish to express how strongly I oppose nuclear energy, in general, and, particularly, the granting of operation rights for the Limerick Plant. For years, the nuclear industry has lied to the American public, claiming the use of nuclear energy is totally safe. However, those claims have proven themselves to be lies through the numerous occurrences of radiation leakage at various plants and, most especially, the accident at Three Mile Island. In this area alone (Central and Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey), there have been numerous instances of radiation leakage into air and water supplies and varying degrees of other "accidental" damage from the many already operating nuclear plants. Obviously, the nuclear industry can not guarantee against the various hazards which arise from the use of nuclear energy. In this area, especially, the use of nuclear energy has proven extremely hazardous and expensive.

The Limerick Nuclear Plant rests in an area of high population density and close proximity to the Delaware River. With its position in such a densely populated area and Philadelphia Electric Company's proposals for cooling and water supply, the plant is placed in a position to affect a large population. Various townships near Limerick have issued proclamations in opposition -- especially to the proposals concerning cooling and water supply. In addition, the completion of the Limerick Plant in such a highly populated area directly opposes the recommendations of the President's Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island.

Obviously, health and safety problems associated with nuclear energy use, as well as, the high probability of human and mechanical error have been greatly underestimated. At present, the potential for hazards at nuclear power plants is unquestionably high and nuclear energy has proven far more dangerous and expensive than other means. The full impact of nuclear energy use, radioactivity, the transport and disposal of wastes (especially, considering the half-lives involved), as well as, the outcomes and effects on the environment and population is unknown. Yet, nuclear energy continues to be used, with no concern for its effects on the present or future generations.

There are innumerable other means of energy which have not been fully explored or backed. It appears that the government and the nuclear industry are making decisions regarding nuclear energy (decisions of benefit to themselves), with no fair consideration of other, safer means. I find it unjust and unreasonable that industry and government should be making decisions of such import as nuclear energy.

I feel the American public deserves the true facts regarding the present status of nuclear energy use, fair consideration and research into safer, alternative means of energy, and the right (through voting) to decide themselves on matters of such importance. The Limerick Nuclear Plant can still be reconverted and already has proven considerably expensive and potentially hazardous. These expenses, as well as, the considerable costs being incurred in the clean-up of Three Mile Island, could well have been used for research into other means and may well have provided another viable source of energy production. Solar energy, especially, deserves greater consideration.

Again, I wish to express my very strong opposition to the completion and granting of an operating permit to Philadelphia Electric Company for the Limerick Nuclear Reactor, as well as, my strong objection to the lack of consideration of alternative means of energy production. It is my hope that this matter will be given serious consideration.

Sincerely,

*Deborah K. Schilling*  
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